

Information for Providers of Employment & Training Services

WHAT?

SNAP2Work is part of the federal Employment and Training (E&T) program associated with the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP), formerly called Food Stamps. Basically, the federal government provides some funding to support programs administered by States to help SNAP recipients become employed. One way this is done is through the Third Party Reimbursement Program, where service providers can partner with the State Agency (SCDSS) to provide employment and training services to SNAP recipients and be reimbursed for 50% of their costs incurred by providing the services.

WHO?

Any provider, public or non-profit, offering approved employment and training services to SNAP recipients using non-federal funding is eligible to partner with SCDSS in this initiative. Approved services include: job search training, job search, education, vocational training, and job retention. Providers must offer the following activities as part of their program: an individualized assessment, employment plan, case management, and supportive services. Providers are encouraged to work with external worthwhile resources to maximize the benefit to participants.

Any SNAP recipient who is not receiving TANF benefits is eligible to participate in the SNAP2Work program.

HOW?

First, you must become an approved provider through DSS. The process is relatively simple. The provider must sign an agreement with SCDSS, which outlines the services the provider will offer and an estimate of the budget for the program. Once you are an approved provider, you simply provide the services, submit a quarterly invoice to SCDSS for 50% of allowable costs, and DSS will access the federal funds, retain 5%, and pass 47.5% back to the provider. The provider may then invest those non-federal funds back into the program and request reimbursement again each quarter that services are provided.

WHY?

Although this funding has always been available, SCDSS has not accessed it before now. SCDSS now wants to utilize this opportunity to help more SNAP recipients have the opportunity to become employed.

The real question for providers is, "Why not?" You are already providing the services (probably to SNAP recipients, whether you know it or not) and doing good work to help people find a job. Why not get 50% of your costs back?